

REMARKS

The above amendments and these remarks are responsive to the non-final Office Action issued on March 28, 2007. By this Response, claims 99-104, 111-116, 123-128 and 135-140 are amended, and claims 93-98, 105-110, 117-122 and 129-134 are cancelled without prejudice. Claims 1-92 were previously cancelled. Claims 99-104, 111-116, 123-128 and 135-140 are now active for examination. A petition for an one-month extension of time is submitted concurrently herewith.

The Office Action acknowledged that claims 99-104, 111-116, 123-128 and 135-140 would be allowable if they are rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims, and were to overcome any rejections under 35 U.S.C. §101, where applicable.

By this Response, the objected claims 99-104, 111-116, 123-128 and 135-140 are rewritten into independent form as suggested by the Examiner, to achieve allowance. Furthermore, the specification is amended to specifically clarify that the claims cover only statutory subject matter. Accordingly, the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §101 is overcome. This Response also addresses the formality objection to claim 116. All other rejected claims are cancelled without prejudice.

Applicants believe that this application is now in condition for allowance and request the Examiner give the application favorable reconsideration and permit it to issue as a patent. However, if the Examiner believes that the application can be put in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' representative listed below.

Application No.: 10/652,620

Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 502203 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

McDERMOTT WILL & EMERY LLP



Wei-Chen Nicholas Chen

Registration No. 56,665

18191 Von Karman Avenue, St. 500
Irvine, CA 92612-7108

Phone: 949-851-0633 WNC/pab

Facsimile: 949-851-9348

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